

HOUSE RESOLUTION 32

By Parkinson

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Emma Mae Peete Mottley of Keeling.

WHEREAS, we were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mrs. Emma Mae Peete Mottley, a Christian woman who believed in the importance of studying God's word daily; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Mottley was a gifted seamstress and interior decorator who provided upholstery and drapery services for commercial and residential customers for more than thirty years; and

WHEREAS, the finished products of her singular sewing and upholstery skills were on display in every room of her home; her custom pieces often found their way into the homes of her children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Mottley was an avid reader, faithfully reading the Bible and newspaper daily; she also possessed a green thumb and kept detailed records of historical events for her family and her church; and

WHEREAS, she was passionate about many things, especially serving her community and uplifting others as a member of the NAACP and the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History; and

WHEREAS, a lady of many talents and interests, Mrs. Mottley earned her GED from Springhill School and was CPR-certified; and

WHEREAS, regardless of which favorite dish or recipe she prepared, her cooking and baking skills were impeccable; some of her many delicious recipes were published in *Divine Magazine's* 2007 Holiday Issue; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Emma Mae Peete Mottley confessed a hope in Christ at an early age at Freedonia Baptist Church in Stanton; and

WHEREAS, she served her congregation as an usher for more than fifty years; taking her role as a "doorkeeper in the house of the Lord" seriously, she was a hands-on leader of the usher board; and

WHEREAS, affectionately known as "Mother Mottley" by her church family, she rendered faithful service as a member of the Sunday School Board, Missionary Society, Vacation Bible School, and Evangelism Explosion; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Emma Mae Peete Mottley enjoyed forty-eight years of marriage with the love of her life, Reverend Jim T. Mottley, Sr., until his passing; their blessed union produced fifteen children; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1960s, Mr. and Mrs. Mottley welcomed three of their grandchildren into their hearts, home, and lives and played a major role in raising and shaping them; and

WHEREAS, lovingly known as "Ma Dea" to all, Mrs. Emma Mae Peete Mottley leaves to cherish her memory nine daughters, five sons, fifty-eight grandchildren, sixty-one great-grandchildren, and twenty-three great-great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her parents, Miles Peete, Jr., and Agnettia Kneeland Peete; her husband, Reverend Jim T. Mottley, Sr.; and her son, Alfred; and

WHEREAS, an inspirational force in the lives of so many, Mrs. Mottley will be fondly remembered and revered as the matriarch of her large and loving family; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Mrs. Emma Mae Peete Mottley and extend our condolences and sympathy to her family, church family, and many friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.